

REMARKS

Claims 6-10 are presently pending in the application. Claim 6 is in independent form. Claims 6, 8-10 are being amended by way of this response. No new matter is being added by way of these amendments. A request for continued examination and a one month extension of time are included with this response. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are currently amend to clarify that each of the two antenna branches is used for transmitting and receiving, and that each antenna branch operates on overlapping frequency bands.

Support may be found for these amendments throughout the specification. For example, ¶16 recites “two antenna branches which act as transmitting elements and receiving elements” (emphasis added). ¶25 recites “Figure 1 shows, in a schematic manner, the general design of an antenna structure, which is designed to transmit and receive in the region of two mutually adjacent mobile radio standard frequency ranges” (emphasis added). ¶10 recites “the two antenna branches of the antenna structure are designed such that their associated frequency bands overlap” (emphasis added). ¶11 recites “overlap between the two frequency bands” and “A desired overlap of the two frequency bands can be achieved by appropriate arrangement of the two RF supply connections” (emphasis added). ¶17 recites “In one preferred embodiment, the antenna structure is designed for the GSM 850 and EGSM 900 mobile radio standard frequency ranges, with the two overlapping frequency ranges resulting in a broadband spectrum which covers the two standard frequency ranges. ” (emphasis added). ¶32 recites “In this case, the positions of the RF supply points P1, P3 are varied during adjustment of the antenna structure for a suitable overlap of the two frequency ranges” (emphasis added). ¶34 recites “It is also possible in the case of the antenna structure shown here to achieve overlapping frequency ranges of the two antenna branches Z1, Z2 by suitable choice of the positions for the connecting points P1, P2, P3. ” (emphasis added). ¶35 recites “The exemplary embodiments can be transferred directly to antenna structures which are intended to have overlapping frequency ranges for the GSM 1800 and EGSM 1900 standard mobile radio frequency ranges” (emphasis added).

Claim 6, the only independent claim, was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by *Kane* (US Patent 6,639,555). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 6 recites, inter alia, “the two transmitter/receiver antenna branches are associated with overlapping frequency bands” (emphasis added). *Kane* fails to teach this element.

The Office action indicates that the two antenna branches of *Kane* are shown in the figures as elements 152 and 153 or alternatively as antenna elements 1652 and 1653. However, as indicated by the Examiner’s annotations of the figures and as supported by the *Kane* specification, antenna element 153/1653 is a transmitting element and antenna element 152/1652 is a receiving element. Neither of these elements is a “transmitter/receiver antenna branch” as currently claimed. In addition, these antenna element pairs of *Kane* operate on different frequencies, not “overlapping frequency bands” as currently claimed.

These distinctions are made clear by the *Kane* specification, which teaches away from the present invention. For example, *Kane* states:

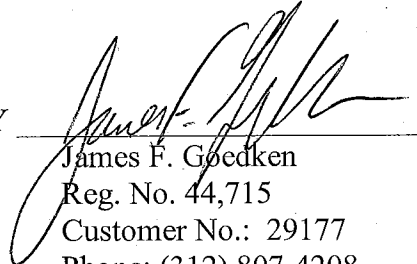
As shown in FIG. 2, the resonance frequencies of the receiving element 152 and the transmitting element 153 are different from each other, depending on the element lengths, and thus, the isolation between a received signal and a transmission signal can be improved. In addition, the receiving element 152 and the transmitting element 153 have an end connected to the antenna ground 151 for grounding, respectively. Since the receiving element 152 and the transmitting element 153 operate separately from each other, the antenna device can be optimized for receiving and transmitting, respectively and the reception sensitivity and the transmission efficiency can be improved. (col. 12, lines 34-46; emphasis added)

Kane does not disclose each and every element of independent claims 6 as currently amended. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 6 is in condition for allowance. All other claims depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 6. Therefore, these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 6-10 are both novel and non-obvious over the art of record. The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned. If any additional fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket no. (119065-32) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,
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